

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 9 are currently pending in the application.

This amendment is in response to the Office Action of March 16, 2005.

Double Patenting Rejections

Claims 1 through 9 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 through 9 of U.S. Patent 6,588,645; claims 1 through 10 of U.S. Patent 6,443,350; claims 1 through 10 of U.S. Patent 6,325,271; claims 1 through 10 of U.S. Patent 6,082,605; and claims 1 through 9 of U.S. Patent 5,988,480.

In order to avoid further expenses and time delay, Applicant elects to expedite the prosecution of the present application by filing terminal disclaimers to obviate the double patenting rejections in compliance with 37 CFR §1.321 (b) and (c). Applicant's filing of the terminal disclaimers should not be construed as acquiescence in the Examiner's double patenting or obviousness-type double patenting rejections. Attached are the terminal disclaimers and accompanying fees.

Applicant submits that claims 1 through 9 are clearly allowable over the cited prior art.

Applicant requests the allowance of claims 1 through 9 and the case passed for issue.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: June 16, 2005

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